REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-9 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to for certain informalities. Applicants have attached revised drawings for the Examiner's approval. In the revised drawings, the redundant reference numeral 10 in Figure 3 has been deleted. No new matter has been added.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannera et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,195,795). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Cannera et al.'s at least one front leg is not releasably secured to the floor of the vehicle. As pointed out at lines 50-60 of claim 3, the lower leg portions 82 of front legs 20 include yokes 84 to <u>secure</u> front leg 20 to bar 92 permanently associated with the floor of the vehicle cabin. Claims 1 and 3-9 are believed distinguishable over Cannera et al. as all these claims call for "at least one front leg <u>releasably</u> secured to the floor of the vehicle" (emphasis added).

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present

Serial No. 10/646,188

Atty. Ref 706441US5

Page 5 of 6

application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Ralph E. Smith at (248) 944-6519.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 8, 2004

By:

Gordon K. Harris, Jr., Reg. No. 28,615

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.

P.O. Box 828

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303

(248) 641-1600

Attorney for Applicants

Ralph E. Smith CIMS 483-02-19 DaimlerChrysler Intellectual Capital Corporation DaimlerChrysler Technology Center 800 Chrysler Drive East Auburn Hills, MI 48326-2757 248-944-6519